BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Warrior River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

ROCKY CREEK CHURCH,

Morgan County, Ala.

ON THE

11th, 12th and 14th October, 1872.

OFFICERS.

ELDER J. C. SHELTON, *Moderator.*
" V. H. DEAN, *Recording Clerk.*
" C. A. BURNS, *Corresponding Clerk.*
G. M. LEGRANDE, *Treasurer.*

ROME, GA.:
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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2. Invite visiting Ministers to seats.
3. Inquire for Correspondence.
4. Appoint usual Committees.
5. Locate Union Meetings.
6. Appoint Correspondents.
7. Hear reports of usual Committees.
8. Hear reports of special Committees.
9. Consider Queries and Requests.
10. Attend to general Business.
11. Fix time and place for next Session.
12. Fix order for printing and distributing Minutes.
13. Read and correct Minutes.
14. Call and correct Roll.

MINUTES.

Rocky Creek Church, Ala., Oct. 11, 1872.

1. The Delegates composing the Warrior River Baptist Association convened with the above church according to previous arrangement. In the absence of those appointed, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder V. H. Dean, on John VI, part 35 verse.

2. After an intermission re-assembled in the house, and were called to order by former Moderator. Prayer by Elder P. M. Musgrove.

3. Read the letters and enrolled the names of delegates. Upon the reading of the letter from Union Church it was, on motion, laid upon the table for investigation.

4. On motion, the usual practice of our Association was suspended so as to call for petitionary letters, when Bangor, Macedonia and Salem presented letters, and being found orthodox were cordially received, the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to the Delegates.

5. Elected Elders J. C. Shelton, Moderator; V. H. Dean, Recording Clerk; C. A. Burns, Corresponding Clerk, and Brother G. M. Legrande, Treasurer.

6. On motion, the order of last year's business was adopted for the present session.

7. Called for correspondence. Received from Canaan Association, Elder A. J. Waldrop, with letters and minutes. From Muscle Shoals, W. S. Simpsom. From North River, Thomas Burrell, with letter and minutes.

8. Appointed Committees. On Devotion, J. J. Weaver, J. L. Plemmons, H. Cornelius, H. C. Reed, S. Griffeth. On Sabbath Schools, H. Cornelius, A. F. Whitley, S. W. Smith. On State of Religion, P. M. Musgrove, J. B. Loveless, C. A. Burns. On Documents, J. M. Stewart, F. L. Hearn, G. W. Tipton. On Temperance, C. A. Burns, P. Huff, M. Ray. On Finance, F. L. Hearn, S. Lowry. On Missions, J. B. Loveless, T. B. Goins, M. McNeal.

9. On motion, a committee of five was appointed to investigate the matter of Union Church, viz: V. H. Dean, H. C. Reed, C. A. Burns, S. Griffeth, W. C. Holmes.

10. On motion, adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder A. J. Waldrop.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. C. Shelton.

11. Called for petitionary letters.

12. Called for correspondence, when Elder M. A Verser was recognized as a correspondent from the Muscle Shoals Association. 12. Invited visiting ministers, when Elder Windes was recognized.

13. Called and corrected the roll and read the Minutes.

14. Read the Constitution and rules of Decorum.

15. On motion, suspended the regular order of business to receive the reports of some Committees, when the Committee on Union Church read their report.

16. Pending the consideration of this report, on motion, took a recess of an hour and a half to hear Elder B. Williams preach.

17. Met after preaching and resumed the consideration of the report on Union Church, which, after amendment, was adopted. See Appendix A.

18. On motion, W. T. Rogers was allowed five minutes to address the body.

19. Received report of the Trustees of Mulberry College.

20. Pending the discussion thereon, on motion, adjourned.

SABBATH.

The stand was occupied at 10½ o'clock by Elder J. B. Loveless; at 12 o'clock by Elder P. M. Musgrove, followed by Elder B. Williams, who preached to a large and attentive congregation. Preaching at night in the house by Elder V. H. Dean, followed by Elder C. A. Burns. The stand was occupied by various Brethren during the session of the body. May the word preached prove a savor of life to many. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Brother W. S. Simpson.

21. Resumed the consideration of College report. After some remarks by several Brethren, adopted the same. Appendix B.

22. Resumed regular order of business. Appointed Union meetings. In 1st District at Arkadelphia, on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in July, 1873, Elder G. Cone to preach the introductory. In 2d District at White Plains, Friday before the 3d Sabbath in August, Elder W. Whaley to preach the introductory. In 3d District at Friendship, Friday before the 2d

Sabbath in August, Elder J. C. Shelton to preach the introductory.

23. On motion, appointed a committee to nominate nine Trustees for Mulberry College, viz: P. M. Musgrove, A. F. Whitley, J. B. Loveless, who reported the following names, viz: P. M. Musgrove, A. Burns, Isaac Edwards, G. M. Legrande, S. Griffeth, W. Y. Adams, F. A. Hanna, John Callahan, J. W. Ellis.

24. Appointed correspondence. To Cherokeee Association to meet with Gravel Hill Church, Brandon's Station A. & C. R. R., Saturday before 3d Sabbath in September, 1873, V. H. Dean, J. Fields, H. Cornelius. To Canaan, at Springville, 1st Sabbath in October, J. C. Shelton, C. A. Burns, P. M. Musgrove, V. H Dean, J. B. Loveless, R. J. Towers, S. W. Smith, H. Cornelius. To Muscle Shoals, at Bethel Church, 1st Sabbath in October, J. M. Stewart, W. Y. Adams, J. Lemons, T. L. Simpson. To North River, at Liberty Grove Church, 4th Sabbath in September, J. B. Loveless, S. Griffeth, J. M. Stewart, M. McNeal, Jesse Stephens, E. M. Robinson, J. S. Kyle. To General Association of Middle Tennessee and North Alabama, P. M. Musgrove, J. B. Loveless.

25. Adopted report on Documents. Appendix C.

26. Adopted report on Missions. Appendix D. On motion, the names of those ministers who will volunteer one month in the mission be recorded, viz: J. C. Shelton, P. M. Musgrove, V. H. Dean, J. B. Loveless.

27. Adopted report on Finance. Appendix E.

28. Adopted report on State of Religion. Appendix F.

29. Adopted letter of Correspondence. Appendix G.

30. Considered Queries. 1st item (see report on Documents) was not answered. 2d item, query from Harmony (W) was answered; it is a command and may be practiced. 3d item, query from Liberty was answered in negative.

31. Adopted report on Sabbath Schools. Appendix H.

32. Adopted report on Temperance. Appendix J.

33. *Resolved,* That we return our sincere thanks to God for His mercies, and to the Brethren and friends, at Rocky Creek, for the hospitality and kindness extended to us during the present session.

34. Elected J. B. Loveless to preach the next introductory J. C. Shelton, Alternate.

35. Appointed the next session to be held with Liberty Church in Murphree's Valley, Blount county, 15 miles Southeast of Blountville, commencing Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1873.

36. Instructed the Clerk to have as many minutes printed as

the funds on hand will justify, and distribute to the churches according to the amount of money sent up. J. B. Loveless distributing agent for 1st District, P. M. Musgrove for 2d District and J. C. Shelton for 3d District.

37. After singing a hymn, giving the parting hand and joining in prayer, led by Elder J. B. Loveless, adjourned to the time and place above named.

J. C. SHELTON, Moderator.

V. H. DEAN, Recording Secretary.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.

COMMITTEE ON UNION CHURCH.

We, your Committee on the difficulties relating to Union Church, have had the same under careful consideration and respectfully report: We are assured from the evidence before us that the dissatisfaction now in this Association with Union Church, in regard to her act in receiving W. T. Rogers, is based upon the action of Rock Creek Church, Canaan Association, in that the restoring of said Rogers by said Church was done at a called conference, and a respectable number of absent members were opposed to said action; that soon after said Church, at a regular conference, did rescind her act restoring said Rogers to fellowship.

Therefore, with due respect and Christian love to Union Church, we advise her to rescind the act of receiving said Rogers and return to him his letter, and that the case revert between him and Rock Creek Church. Respectfully submitted.

V. H. DEAN, Chairman.

APPENDIX B.

COLLEGE REPORT.

The Trustees appointed at the last session of your body, or a portion of them, met soon after its adjournment and proceeded to organize by appointing the undersigned as President and making the necessary arrangements to be incorporated, which has since been done, so that we now stand as an incorporated body. But we have done nothing as yet in collecting funds for buildings. We have thus far failed to secure a title to the grounds, in consequence of not being able to get a quo-

rum of the Trustees together. Now I would recommend that you appoint nine Trustees as successors to the present board, so as to keep up our incorporation. I would further recommend that they be appointed as near the College location as suitable men can be found, so that they can be called together by the President without much trouble or expence. The name of the College is Mulberry; it is located in the town of Bangor; also the Legislature has passed a law prohibiting the making or selling of spiritous liquors within two miles of the place.

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. Musgrove, President of Trustees.

APPENDIX C.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, offer the following report: We have examined all the papers that come before us and find in the letter from Warrior Creek the following: "Brethren, in examining the minutes of our Association we beg leave to differ with that sage body on at least three items, ziz: The annexation of the Association to the Alabama Baptist State Conventisn, and hereby respectfully ask you to rescind that act, together with that of the 4th article in the report on Documents, and that on Sabbath Schools, as we do not believe it to be the duty of a church to have any human institutions attached to or auxilliary of Christ Church.

2. The following query from Harmony (W), viz: Is feet washing an ordinance or a command? If either, an ordinance nor a command, has a Baptist Church a right to practice it. (See answer in 30 Art. of Minutes.)

3. The following querry from Liberty Church, viz: Is there any scriptural proof or example in the New Testament compelling a member to attend Saturday conference? (Answer in 30 Art,)

4. Liberty Church asks for the next Association.

5. Our Sister Churches Rocky Creek and Enon ask for letters of dismission, which we recommend be granted?

6. An extract from the corresponding letter from North River Association: 'We had the painful duty, which we did, to withdraw from Corinth Church for non-orthodoxy. One R. M. Atkins was silenced from preaching for heresy and Corinth Church licensed him. The crime was preaching Apostacy.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. M. Stewart, Chairman.

APPENDIX D.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, offer the following report: We hold to the doctrine that the world is being evangelized by missionaries, and that the commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," will be carried out. Already the word of God has been translated into all the leading languages of the world, and missionaries are being sent everywhere as fast as the means can be raised to send them. These things are being done in other States and Associations. But we have to regret that little or nothing has been done in our Association during the past year for missions. At our last session we elected two missionaries to travel in the bounds of this Association for six months each. One of them (Elder J. B. Mayle) moved away and the other's (Elder J. B. Loveless) health failed so that he could not travel, consequently we have had no missionery in the field during the last year. Your Committee recommend that the following plan be adopted for the ensuing year. Let the Pastors of churches do as much missionary work as they can, preaching in destitute places when and wherever they can, and whatever funds may be raised be equally divided among them according to their work. We recommend that they call upon their Churches and the congaegations to which they preach to contribute for this purpose, and each to bring up the amount thus contributed to the next session of this body with a report of all miles traveled, number of sermons preached to destitute congregations and churches organized by missionary labor.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. Loveless, Chairman.

APPENDIX E.

FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance offer the following report: The churches reported (22) send up for Minutes $35.65. We have had no opportunity to examine the Treasurer's report, and would suggest that he bring it up to our next session.

Respectfully submitted,

F. L. Hearn, Chairman.

APPENDIX F.

STATE OF RELIGION.

Committee on the State of Religion beg leave to report: That some few of the churches have enjoyed revivals, but as a

general thing there are complaints of coldness and barrenness; but it seems that peace is enjoyed by all the churches. We would respectfully recommend the churches of our body to inquire into the cause of the coldness and barrenness now afflicting our churches. The Lord chastises His people for their sins and omissions of duty. We would further recommend, as a remedy, that each church hold weekly prayer meetings, and also establish Sabbath or Bible Schools, and not only get all the children, but all the grown persons in the neighborhood to attend them. We would further recommend that the ministers of this Association hold ministers' meetings so there may be a oneness in our teaching and practice.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE, Chairman.

APPENDIX G.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Warrior River Baptist Association, to her sisters in correspondence: We have been favored with your messengers and ministers, for which we are thankful. We cordially reciprocate your favors, and have appointed correspondents to your bodies, whose names appear in our minutes. Our next session will be held with Liberty Church, 15 miles Southeast of Blountsville, Alabama, beginning Friday before the 2d Sabbath in October, 1873, at which time we hope to meet you by correspondence.

Our session is not so well attended as usual, and we have had trouble of no ordinary character, but hope all were adjusted in Christian forbearance and love.

With hopes of the future, we remain as ever yours, in Christian affection.

C. A. BURNS,
Corresponding Clerk.

Rocky Creek, Morgan county, Ala., Oct. 14, 1872.

APPENDIX H.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report: From the letters of the churches, we learn that but few have Sabbath Schools, and we think it is greatly to be deplored, as we think the Sabbath School is second only to the preaching of the Gospel by the ministry as a means for the salvation of sinners, as frequently divine impressions are made on the minds of the young in Sabbath Schools, resulting in their conversion. Therefore we recommend that every church of this body pro-

ceed to establish a Sabbath School as a means of teaching the word of God to all, both old and young; also would recommend our brethren to engage in them as teachers.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Cornelius, Chairman.

APPENDIX I.

TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, offer the following report and impressions: That from our observations there seems to be much improvement in the practice and sentiment in our community, yet there is some indifference with some good citizens and Christians on this subject. We are, as a body, as ever fully assured that the use of ardent spirits as a beverage, and the making and selling the same, is injurious to the cause of the Blessed Savior and of a dangerous tendency. Therefore we would admonish and advise all our brethren to be temperate in all things.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. Burns, Chairman.

N. B.—The Recording Clerk requests Clerks of churches in making out their Statistics to give their Post Office address, the names and Post Office of each Ordained and Licensed Preacher in their respective churches, so that we can have a true and perfect list.

Received of V. H. Dean Thirty-Five Dollars for printing Five Hundred copies of these Minutes.

November 6, 1872. Jack & Bro.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES AT THE SESSION OF 1872.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICE	CLERKS.	PASTORS.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sabbath of Mt'g.	Baptized.....	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dismiss'd by Let.	Excluded.	Dead.....	Total.....	Minute Funds.
First District.													
Arkadelphia..	Arkadelphia ..	Jos. Rutherford.....	J B Hucabee..	E M Robinson.....	3	...	3	..	8	1	..	33	2 25
Harmony [W]....	Hanby's Mill,...	M. McNeal.....	J B Hucabee..	S Griffeth. M McNeal, J Stephens	1	2	2	1	10	5	..	32	....
Sulphur Springs..				Not Represented	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	24	....
Pleasant Hill . ..	Bangor...			" "	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	29	....
Dossey's Creek...	Garrisons Point.	J. W. Heatherly.....	B F Loveless..	J B Loveless† J L Alred.....	4	....	..	..	3	..	2	66	1 50
Good Hope.....				Not Represented	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	24	....
Pisgah.				" "	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	36	
Bethesda.....				" " 3 years	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	25	....
Union .	Thackers Creek.	W, L. Burns.....		Letter laid on the Table.....	2	....	3	..	2	..	..	53	...
Beech Grove [B]..				Not Represented.....	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	12	....
Second District.													
Mt. Olive.....				Not Represented 3 years...	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	26	....
Hopewell.....		M. L. M. Shannon...	P M Musgrove.	J Edwards* A Adams*	4	....	..	..	7	1	..	70	2 00
Flint Creek..		J. E. Pope.....	B Williams....	J E Kyle J E Pope....	1	....	..	..	2	3	..	40	1 50
Beech Grove, [M].				Not Represented.....	..	....	..	..	....	..	..	54	....
Enon..		J. M. Holmes	B Williams....	A Keller, W C Holmes, J Tilley	1	6	..	..	..	2	..	37	1 50
Rocky Creek.....		T. L. Simpson..	"	J J Weaver, J L Plemmons, T L Simpson.....	1	....	2	..	2	..	..	26	1 50
Mt. Moriah . .				Not Represented....	....	....	..	..	....	..	..	11	....
Mt. Tabor	Blountsville. ...	W. Y. Adams..	Wm Whaley..	W Y Adams, J M Murphree.....	1	....	..	..	2	..	..	73	2 00
Blountsville	"	A. J Campbell	Destitute	C A Burns†	4	. ..	..	..	2	..	..	18	1 00
White Plains.....	Bangor	W. D. Gillespie.. ...	P M Musgrove	Not Represented	3	....	..	..	....	..	..	54	1 80
Emaus.....				" "	2	....	..	..	....	..	..	20	....
Bangor.....	Bangor	W. H. Musgrove....	P M Musgrove.	P M Musgrove†	1	....	..	..	....	..	..	10	1 00
Salem.....		T. L. Ryan	J C Shelton....	E B Nunn, J Lemons, G W Tipton, ...	3	23	..	..	1	..	1	53	1 25
Third District.													
Warrior Creek...	Summit	J. M Stewart..	J C Shelton ...	H C Reed, J M Stewart, W Widener.....	4	23	3	1	....	..	..	47	1 50
Blue Spring.	Brooksville,.....	J B Fowler	Jas Fields.....	A B Cox	2	....	..	..	11	2	..	30	1 30
Mt Carmel.....	Guntersville. ..	O. H. Alford.....	M A Verser....	W Rainwater	4	..	2	..	10	5	..	79	1 75
Shiloh	Brooksville . ..	W Gunter.....	J C Shelton ...	J C Shelton†	3	4	2	..	12	..	..	25	1 00
Friendship	Walnut Grove...	V B. Hunt	Jas Fields, ...	A J Hunt*	2	8	12	6	10	8	..	74	1 50
Walnut Grove.....	" "	W. A. Dupree..	P M Musgrove.	H Cornelius, V H Dean†	2	....	8	..	5	2	..	37	2 00
Harmony [B].....	" "	W. L Ellison.....	Jas Fields.....	A F Whitley, T B Goins	1	....	2	1	....	..	..	35	1 65
Rock Spring.	Guntersville	N. T Morgan..	J Y Bain	W H Lyon* R B Buchanon*	4	6	3	..	....	2	3	96	2 00
Liberty.....	Chepultepec. ...	W. M. Cole	G B Wade....	R J Towers	2	4	9	..	..	..	..	44	2 25
Antioch..	Brooksville....	F L Hearn.....	Destitute	F L Hearn, S W Smith	2	....	..	..	4	..	..	12	1 00
Mt. Pleasant	Wynnville	M. Ray.....	J C Shelton....	M Ray, J P Honea, J F Greer	3	12	4	..	1	..	1	37	....
Macedonia [B]....	Brooksville.....		J C Shelton ...	P Huff, S Lowery, C G Bishop	1	3	5	..	....	..	..	19	1 10
						91	00	9	92	31	7	1461	37 45